

APPROVED: Meeting No. 19-91

ATTEST: *Sharon A. Gran*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND  
Meeting No. 16-91

May 1, 1991

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland Avenue at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on May 1, 1991, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember Viola D. Hovsepian

Councilmember James T. Marrinan (arr. at 7:25 p.m.) Councilmember David Robbins

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, Assistant City Manager Rick Kuckkahn and City Clerk Sharon Gran.

Re: Worksession with Senior  
Citizens Commission

Helen Roberto, Chairperson, and Commission Members Estelle Berberian, Armand Capozzi, Benton Hanan, James Henry and Kathryn Moch discussed the following issues with the Mayor and Council:

FY91 New Projects

Estelle Berberian presented the City with a scrapbook illustrating the first 20 years of the Senior Program in Rockville.

Jim Henry reported on the establishment of a senior assistance fund. This has been set up as a perpetual fund, and only the interest monies will be expended to provide assistance to needy seniors. Thus far this year, the Commission has provided subsidies to 13 individuals for various programs including the May Gala.

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Each member of the Commission has selected an "objective for betterment of seniors" and will research this area and report back to the Commission. Some of the topics include property and income, transportation, taxes and accessory housing.

The new Golden Ringers Club at Ring House has 135 members and is functioning very well.

Armand Capozzi reported on activities at the Pump House. Through the Commission, they have purchased a new stove, VCR, and now have aerobics and crafts.

#### Transportation

The addition of a third driver this fiscal year for the Senior Bus program has been very effective. An interest in pedestrian safety was expressed, and Councilmember Coyle responded that a report on this issue is forthcoming to the Mayor and Council from the Traffic and Transportation Commission and staff.

#### Continuation of Volunteer Activities

The Commission will continue to co-sponsor Flag Day, Grandparents Day and Memorial Day activities. Other Commission activities include participation in the surplus food distribution and working with the senior employment program in co-sponsoring the Senior Job Fair.

Appreciation was expressed to the Mayor and Council for funding the Carnation Supper Club when it was dropped by the County.

#### Outreach to Recruit Senior Volunteers

Benton Hanan cited many benefits for seniors who volunteer, particularly that they have longer, healthier lives. The three primary reasons people volunteer are a need for: achievement, interpersonal relations, or power. It was noted that professional guidance is needed for coordination of volunteers and their activities. The Commission may also make greater use of "Volunteer Connection."

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Other

Helen Roberto reported that as of June 21, the Commission will take over the surplus food distribution at the Senior Center.

In the coming year, the Commission will schedule visits to nursing homes and day care centers and continue to work closely with the Pump House.

Re: Worksession with Rockville  
Seniors, Inc.

Bernie Shannon, Chairperson, and RSI Members Don Bokelman, Alverta Dronenburg, Ray Hughes, Paul Roney, Murray Stein and Ira Walters discussed the following issues with the Mayor and Council:

Status of Senior Center

RSI currently has 2,067 members, 101 of whom are non-residents. The current membership fee is \$6 for residents and \$48 for non-residents. RSI, primarily through donations, has purchased a new piano for the Senior Center. A kiln was also purchased for the Senior Center, and RSI is contributing annually to the five-year improvements program for the Center.

The Kiwanis Club of Rockville continues to sponsor the RSI softball team.

Financial Status

Don Bokelman, Treasurer, reported that there will probably be a shortfall of approximately \$4,500 in projected receipts of \$59,400 for this fiscal year primarily due to Bingo losses. Both the Gift Shop and the Thrift Shop have been very profitable this fiscal year. A \$53,400 budget is proposed for FY92.

Re: Worksession with Recreation  
and Park Advisory Board

Charles Garroccio, Chairperson and Board Members Terry Baker, Genie McKay and Brodie Mullican discussed the following issues with the Mayor and Council:

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Fee Structures - Resident vs. Non-Resident Status

The Board continues to work on the fee structures and has reviewed everything including the Civic Center Mansion facility. Mayor Duncan requested that the gap between resident and non-resident fees be widened so that costs are fully recovered from non-resident fees, especially for groups such as RBBA (Rockville Baseball Association) and Rockville Football League (RFL).

Both RFL and RBBA are independent bodies with their own bylaws. However, the City should have a policy applicable to all groups which provide services in the City including Rockville Little Theatre and Rockville Musical Theatre. It was agreed that the Board would review and recommend a blanket policy applicable to all groups which provide services in the City. Also mentioned was the need for a requirement that a certain percentage of members of such groups be Rockville residents.

Direction of the RBBA

The need for a consistent contractual arrangement with groups such as RBBA and RFL was again mentioned. The Recreation and Park Advisory Board will forward a memo to the Mayor and Council regarding this matter which will be scheduled for discussion on the Mayor and Council agenda of May 13.

Civic Center Mansion Subcommittee

Clarification was provided regarding the Subcommittee's work plan and the fact that only issues concerning changes to the exterior of the Mansion would be referred to the Historic District Commission.

Re: Worksession with Cultural Arts  
Commission

Ken Lechter, Chairperson, and Commission Members Judy Greenberg, Charles Goldstein, Eileen Mader, Floria McGuckian, John Moser, George Northway and Marilyn Scott discussed the following issues with the Mayor and Council:

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1990-91 Accomplishments

A number of works of art have been dedicated this year including "Map of Rockville" at Broome Athletic Park, "Ballgame" at the recently rededicated Dogwood Park and the art quilts in the Council Chamber.

Art in Public Places

Julio Teichberg's sculpture will be dedicated on May 18 at the Swim Center. Entries for the Rockcrest Ballet Center Park and Potomac Woods Park awards are on display in the Atrium of City Hall.

Recently, Gabriele Schmidt-Heins, the Pinneberg artist awarded the commission for Welsh Park, visited Rockville and made all of the necessary preparations to accomplish her project. It is anticipated that this project will be completed in June or July.

FY92 Budget

The budget of \$65,000 includes one gateway and two neighborhood sites. At the request of George Northway, staff has developed a spreadsheet program to provide updated financial information on the Art in Public Places Program. This spreadsheet will be updated monthly and forwarded to the Mayor and Council along with copies of the Commission's approved minutes.

Town Center

The Commission requested that it be involved in future plans for development in Town Center in order to coordinate a major work of art for Town Center. It was noted that there is currently a balance of \$166,000 in the Art in Public Places Fund.

In response to Mayor Duncan's inquiry regarding repair of the mural at Metro Center, staff has just met with representatives of the new management company which will be following up with this issue.

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1993-1998 Art in Public Places Master Plan

Former Commission member John Tyner has submitted his concept for a new Art in Public Places Master Plan. This is a comprehensive document which is being reviewed by the Art in Public Places subcommittee and, hopefully, there will be a recommendation forthcoming to the Mayor and Council by the end of the year.

Other

The "Focus on the Arts" cable show continues to do very well.

A proposal for an "Arts Award" program was mentioned which would recognize on an annual basis a committee member, government representative or private industry individual for extraordinary contributions to art in the City. A less expensive form of recognition than the format proposed was suggested.

Mayor Duncan commented that, in order to promote an understanding of the intricacies involved in the creation of a work of art, it would be helpful to have a pictorial or videotape showing the different stages of a piece of work from beginning to end. The Focus on the Arts show would provide an ideal venue for this.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m., to convene again in Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. on May 7, 1991, or at the call of the Mayor.